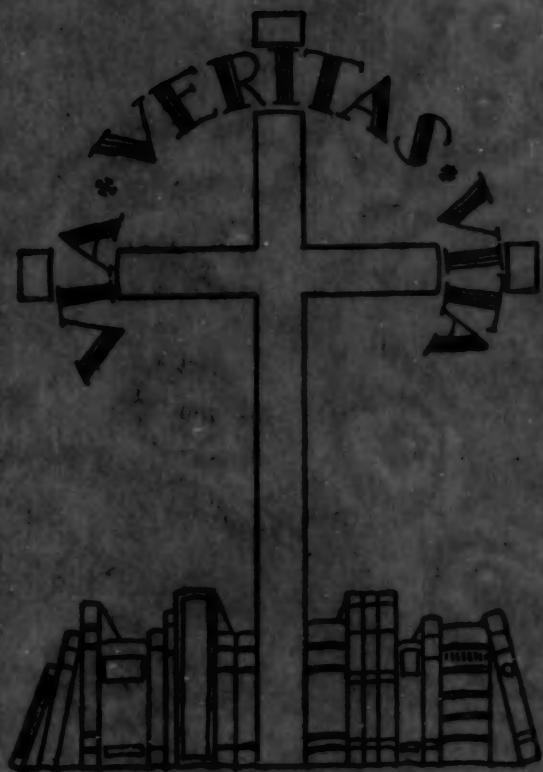


THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

LIBRARY SCIENCE
STUDY HALL



VOL. 23

OCTOBER, 1951

NO. 1

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Compton Comment

IN 1934 we published in Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia Anne Carroll Moore's list of children's books, "Seven Stories High." The list was so enthusiastically received that we issued it in reprint form. Since then the list has been revised many times, and after each revision we have issued a new edition of the reprint. Last week we were checking on the distribution of reprints and other pamphlets during the past year and were not surprised to find that, without any advertising of the list, the number of requests for "Seven Stories High" had equaled the number of requests for any other piece of material.

Among those who asked for the list recently was an American officer stationed in Munich who two years ago adopted a five-year-old German boy. At the time of his adoption the boy spoke no English. Although he is now in the second grade in an American Military Post school, he is having difficulty with reading and writing. Good books will solve the problem, the father believes, and he especially wants those that will bring him close to the American tradition—"books that will lead him gradually to an understanding of the American background, folklore and folk music, books that include concepts of freedom and equality." The father also wanted to know about our encyclopedia and the *Horn Book*.

LIFE in a city is complicated and so sometimes is publishing. Last spring we were looking for an artist to illustrate a certain article, and, having agreed upon



Elizabeth Orton Jones, we set out to find her. We had her Highland Park telephone number, but she had moved. We called her New Hampshire farm, but the telephone had been disconnected. About that time business took me to New York so I called the publishers of one of her recent books only to learn that she was living on Dearborn Street in Chicago—two blocks from our office! "Why didn't you lean out your window and call me?" asked Miss Jones when she heard the story.

ALL the way up in the elevator a lad of perhaps twenty-two had been staring fixedly at my jacket lapel. As the elevator stopped at my floor his puzzled expression changed to a sheepish grin. "You know," he said, "at first I thought that rose was real." A few minutes later a friend with whom I was dining arrived, bringing me a single perfect rose about the same color as the one I had been wearing. As we left the apartment I took off the artificial rose and pinned on the real one. We were talking, so we had reached the lobby floor before I realized that the same boy was in the elevator—and was again staring at the rose, this time in complete bewilderment. Before I could speak he had shot out of the door and I have never seen him since. I am sorry. Life is sufficiently confusing for young people these days without being further complicated by sleight-of-hand performances in elevators.

L. J. Lewis

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The Catholic Library World

Official Journal of the Catholic Library Association

VOLUME 23

OCTOBER, 1951

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THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

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CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED EVENTS

1951

October 13—New England Unit: Fall Meeting, New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., 2:30 P.M.

October 13—Western Pennsylvania Unit: General Meeting. Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pa. Guest speaker: Mr. Charles B. Shaw.

October 20—Maryland Unit: Fall Meeting. College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore, Md., 2 P.M.

October 27—Illinois Unit: Annual Meeting. Alvernia High School, Chicago, Ill., 9 A.M.

October 27—Midwest Unit: Annual Meeting. Ursuline College, Paola, Kans., 9 A.M. Guest speakers: Mr. R. Paul Bartolini; Rev. Colman J. Farrell, O.S.B.; Sister Margaret John, C.S.J.

October 28—Michigan Unit: Fall Meeting. Dominican High School, Detroit, 2 P.M. Guest speaker, Rev. James J. Kortendick, S.S.

November 3—New York-New Jersey Unit: Fall Meeting. Notre Dame Academy, Staten Island, N.Y. Guest speaker: Sister M. Richardine, O.P.

November 11-17—National Children's Book Week, 33d annual observance. *Theme*: New Horizons with Books. For information, write Children's Book Council, 50 W. 53rd St., New York 19, N.Y.

November 12-18—Boys' and Girls' Book Fair, 5th annual. American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y.

November 24—Minnesota-Dakota Unit: Fall Meeting. St. Mary's College, Winona, Minn. Guest speaker: Sister M. Rosenda, O.S.F.

1952

January 27-31—U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, 3d National Conference. Hunter College, New York, N.Y.

January 29—National Book Awards, 3d annual. Commodore Hotel, New York, N.Y.

February 17-23—Catholic Book Week: 12th annual observance.

June 24-28—Catholic Library Association: 26th Annual Conference. Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, N.Y. *Theme*: American Catholic Letters at Mid-Century.

THE SECOND SPRING¹

By JOHN M. O'LOUGHLIN
President, Catholic Library Association

In his great masterpiece, *The Second Spring*, Cardinal Newman observed: "One thing alone I know — that according to our need, so will be our strength." Two decades ago Catholic librarians of New England were invited to convene at Boston College to discuss matters on a national and local level. It was felt that there was need of an independent organization of Catholic librarians. Fortified with the conviction of this group and armed with an informal set of Constitution and By-laws, Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J., went to the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in Philadelphia. With the assistance of Rev. Paul Foik, C.S.C., Rev. Peter J. Etzig, C.Ss.R., Mother M. Agatha, O.S.U., Mother St. Jerome, S.H.C.J., and others, Father Stinson prevailed upon the officers of the N.C.E.A. to sanction the dissolution of the Library Section of that organization. Thus the Catholic Library Association came into existence. The trials and hardships of the young organization were discouraging. However, there was need for such an association, and there was strength to strive for its objectives!

The first conference of the CLA was held in this city, at Loyola University. It is fitting, indeed, that we meet in Chicago twenty years later and note the progress which has been made. In the issue of *America* for July 2, 1932, Rev. Francis X. Talbot, S.J., cited the wisdom of Catholic librarians in forming their own independent organization. "In one year," he wrote, "it [CLA] has accomplished much, and in its program it gives indication of larger accomplishments." The program referred to by Father Talbot has been realized beyond expectation.

The major consideration in 1931, and our major consideration ever since, for that matter, was the *Catholic Periodical Index*. The need for this invaluable index has been recognized for more than a generation. In-

spired by the conviction that the *C.P.I.* would be the means of revealing the treasures of Catholic thought and literature hidden within the pages of periodicals, the early officers, editor, and indexers unselfishly devoted their energies to insure the success of our *magnum opus*. We are profoundly indebted to these pioneers who foresaw the great possibilities of the *Index*. We have been blessed with the strength to cope with the difficulties and problems which have marked its struggle for existence. In this struggle the editorial staff has consistently reflected the true spirit of the lay apostolate. The potentialities of the *C.P.I.* are known to Catholic librarians and educators alike. The full realization of these potentialities is a challenge to be faced in the years that lie ahead.

From a modest and unpretentious mimeographed monthly, the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* has developed into a professional organ of which we may well be proud. Because of the abiding loyalty of the editors and contributors, the *WORLD* has grown commendably in stature and importance among publications in the library field.

The first *Handbook of the CLA* was published in 1935. In the ensuing fifteen years the *Handbook* has become an indispensable classified directory of the permanent activities of the CLA, and an informative guide to the detailed structure of the association. An examination of the current *Handbook* reveals that the CLA of today, twenty years after its formation, is an organization of service composed of integrated Boards, Committees, Sections, and Units designed "to initiate, foster and encourage any movement toward the progress of Catholic literature and Catholic library work".

A cogent factor in the growth of the CLA has been Unit activity. The idea germinated in Brooklyn and shortly after in Wilmington some sixteen years ago. Today there are thirty-nine Units spreading across the continent from New England to the great Northwest. These Units are the arteries through which flows the life blood of the

1. Paper read by title at the First General Session, Chicago Conference, March 27, 1951.

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

CLA. They maintain a lively interest in our organization and in the library profession. They unite our members in furthering the objectives of the parent organization. They provide a medium for the exchange of ideas, for the dissemination of information, and for the consideration of problems and projects of a local interest.

Years ago some members of the CLA had the good fortune of attending one meeting a year, either a regional conference or the national convention. Many there were who could not be present at either, because of distance. These hardy souls relied entirely on the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* for information about the organization. They were denied the pleasure of making the acquaintance of colleagues from other sections. Many of their problems would have been solved through personal exchange of ideas. The establishment of so many Units has afforded members opportunities of broadening their knowledge of library techniques. The development of Units has been a steadfast means of strengthening the CLA and of expanding service to Catholic librarians. As Unit activity goes, so goes the CLA!

About a dozen years ago the officers of the CLA recognized the need of a national Catholic Book Week stemming from an authorized and competent source. The humble contribution the first year was a reading list. In the succeeding years energetic committees have directed the activities of this important function until today Catholic Book Week and CLA are synonymous. The booklists are now looked upon as annual guides to books worth reading. Under the sponsorship of the CLA, Catholic Book Week is today the outstanding feature of Catholic Press Month.

An undertaking of great practical value is the *Books for Catholic Colleges*. This work has been a distinct contribution to library service. Untold hours of painstaking effort have provided Catholic college librarians with a professional tool whose usefulness is beyond measure. That day has since passed when too many of our Catholic college libraries remained virtually stagnant because the Shaw list was declared inadequate. This complaint is no longer a smoke-screen to shield the resolution of some administrators not to spend money on necessary acquisitions. The compilation of the college list

has been a labor of love, and we owe a debt of gratitude to the compilers for their constancy and their generosity.

On the high school and children's levels the Catholic supplements have rendered incalculable service. The directors of these projects also merit the everlasting appreciation of those who are so signally assisted by such magnificent aids.

In the early days the CLA did not depend on numbers alone, but on the spirit of a common purpose. In fact, the numbers were comparatively small. But there was the strength of united action and the determination to grow in size and importance. There has been a steady but modest growth in quality and in quantity of members. With new members there came new ideas, new perspectives, new determination, new strength, and professional consciousness. Our numbers have increased satisfactorily during the past twenty-years — nearly ten-fold. But what of the hundreds eligible for membership?

Twenty years ago trained or experienced librarians were relatively few. It was a common practice to appoint as librarians individuals upon whom years of teaching had taken their toll, or those who for one reason or another were not able to take an active part in academic life. Since many libraries were small and inconsequential, the position of librarian was classified as of little or no importance. Ex-teachers but one step removed from retirement were honored with the mantle of librarians! It was readily understood, then, why in so many of our Catholic educational institutions the librarian was the unknown quantity. A constructive contribution to Catholic library development has been the relentless missionary efforts of the CLA for trained librarians in our schools and colleges. Hand in hand with this laudable enterprise was the education of superiors to become library-minded. The library has been called the heart of our educational system. The CLA can look with pride on its success in administering the plasma which has brought new life into scores of our Catholic libraries.

Two decades ago there was but a handful of Catholic universities or colleges offering accredited courses in library science. Through the instrumentality of the CLA

THE SECOND SPRING

there are today some twenty institutions giving a full academic year or a limited program of courses in library science. The CLA is justifiably proud of this professional advancement.

We have scanned superficially the record of our accomplishments. What of the future? What lies beyond the unexplored horizons? "The glories of the possible are ours." Realization of the "possible" depends in large measure on increased membership. Assuredly, it would not be reaching for the impossible to expect each member to bring another member into our ranks. It is the conviction of your president that growth in membership can be effected materially through increased Unit activity. The Unit is the local branch of the CLA. The

Unit brings our organization closer to home and offers prospective members the occasion of meeting with professional friends and associates. Enthusiastic Unit activity properly publicized in the area will excite the interest of librarians who may know little or nothing about the CLA and its purposes. Let each and every one of us make a special effort to double our membership, and thus enrich "the glories of the possible".

Since the foundation of the Catholic Library Association the first president, vice-president, secretary, and two members of the first Executive Council have gone to their eternal reward. May we ever hold in sacred memory the zeal of these enthusiastic pioneers who blazed the way to greater accomplishments in Catholic library service.

THE CATHOLIC RENASCENCE, AN UNEXPLORED HORIZON¹

By REVEREND NORMAN WEYAND, S.J.

President, *The Catholic Renascence Society, Loyola University, Chicago*

The theme "Unexplored Horizons" is a most appropriate one for the Twenty-Fifth Annual Conference of the Catholic Library Association. The expansion of current interest in Catholic writers, writers from the period of Christian origins on, is a consoling testimonial to the vitality of Catholic books and the perennial vitality of Catholic truth; but not many years ago the realm of Catholic books was for American readers in general truly an unexplored horizon. Fortunately, although much exploration is still desirable, the horizon of Catholic literature today is far less unexplored than it was thirty, fifteen, or even five years ago.

It is hardly necessary to consider the status of Catholic writing and reading in the United States thirty years ago. But that we may note the changed attitude towards Catholic books in general on the part of the reading public and especially of publishers in Ameri-

ca, let us go back some thirty years to the "F. Scott Fitzgerald era", to "the Main Street" days of Sinclair Lewis. Then let us imagine the best seller lists appearing in papers as different as the *New York Herald Tribune* (or its Chicago relation, by extrinsic denomination the *World's Greatest Newspaper* of Colonel McCormick) and the *San Diego Tribune Sun*. Can any of us picture books such as *The Song of Bernadette* or *The Cardinal* at the top of those best seller lists, week after week and month after month? Can we even picture a life of Christ written by a Catholic such as *The Greatest Story Ever Told* at the top of best seller lists twenty-five to thirty years ago? Can we visualize the spiritual aeneid of a Trappist monk or his account of Trappist life on the lists of that period? Yet, in recent years *The Seven Storey Mountain*, with a small promotional budget and program, was the most surprising success of Harcourt, Brace, a very successful commercial publisher, in

1. Paper read at the First General Session, Chicago Conference, March 27, 1951.

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the year it appeared. And we might note that the same publisher, Harcourt, Brace, probably has another popular spiritual aeneid on its latest list in the German psychiatrist Karl Stern's story of his conversion to the true Church, *The Pillar of Fire*. It will be interesting to observe the success of this volume. Harcourt, Brace is, of course, fortunate in having as trade editor a very capable Catholic, who was at Columbia University with Thomas Merton, in the person of Robert Giroux.

I have recently heard from various sources, however, that the trade editor of practically every commercial publishing house in the United States is looking in all directions for Catholic MSS. Father John Louis Bonn, S.J., a successful author of Catholic books for one of our largest secular publishers (Macmillan), pointed out in a recent lecture entitled "Facts of Fiction", that readers today, confused as they are, realize that the portrayal of Catholic life and the presentation of Catholic truths have value for them and satisfy a craving in their souls. He was unquestionably right. The secular publishers in America are well aware of this craving. They are, in fact, so well aware of the demand for satisfying books that it may be feared that as a result of their eagerness to secure Catholic MSS., the strictly Catholic publishing firms, Sheed and Ward, Bruce, P. J. Kenedy, *et al*, which deserve our greatest support and success, are suffering and will continue to suffer more.

I am convinced that the picture of expanding horizons in Catholic literature and Catholic reading should be viewed through the most optimistically tinted lenses. This fact has been brought home to me in personal experiences more and more emphatically during the last twenty years. I should like to relate numerous experiences of these last twenty years, but the following observations will suffice. In recent years I have made it a point to check secular libraries for listings *re* Gerard Manley Hopkins. From my discovery that the Public Library of Cleveland, Ohio, possessed several copies of *every* published work of Hopkins, as well as all the available critical writings on this poet, to my noting that the Arizona State College at Tempe had a representative Hopkins collection, including even *Immortal Diamond*,

this little investigation has been most consoling. Librarians and teachers everywhere apparently recognize the importance of Catholic books which are truly literature and are willing to provide them for their readers.

Another gratifying evidence of the current general interest in Catholic writings is the large number of Catholic works with *small potential* sales being published by American quality presses of the type of Pantheon Books, the Philosophical Library, and Henry Regnery. In this week's *America* (3/31/51) the advertisement of Pantheon Books alone lists works of the following authors: Peguy (three books), Claudel, Bernanos, Haecker, all important authors in our present Catholic Renaissance.

Finally, the short history of *Renascence*, the semi-annual critical journal of the Catholic Renaissance Society, is significant. *Renascence* was started less than three years ago with no backing except the small financial resources of this very small Society, the members of which were in great part teachers, especially those of religious orders and congregations. And yet, despite the fact that *Renascence* has had no budget for publicity or promotion, it has been very well received, even internationally, and is on the subscription list of secular libraries as different as those of Harvard, Yale, and Dartmouth and of the Teachers Colleges of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Cincinnati, Ohio.

And now, what of our title "The Catholic Renaissance, an Unexplored Horizon"? The general current interest in Catholic writing we have here considered is in part attributable to a distinct cultural movement deserving the name of the Catholic Renaissance. When we gaze back over the cultural history of the Western world, back through the time of the Classical Renaissance in Europe, we observe from at least the sixteenth century on a progressively growing secular and even pagan spirit pervading the intellectual and the artistic productions of "men of thought and art". A glance at the "Era of Enlightenment" and the French Revolution on the one hand and at the *liberal* English mentality of the early nineteenth century on the other will indicate the progress of this secularist, pagan stream.

During the nineteenth century, however, counter forces appeared, weakly at first, then

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more strongly. Writers such as Kenelm Digby and Cardinal Newman, with his Oxford Movement associates, in England and Huysmans, Rimbaud, and even Baudelaire in France showed a different type of realism than the current modes of their age. They manifested a different concept of man's nature. For them man was not a monistic being, purely material; he was not simply a "humanistic being", made up of a material body and a spiritual component capable of intellectual and volitional activity. No, man was for them a humanistic being, raised by his Infinite, Divine Creator to a supernatural destiny. Man was possessed of a fallen nature, as a result of original sin, but a fallen nature redeemed by the Divine Sacrifice of the Word, the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ — "the same, yesterday, today and forever". For these writers, Dostoevsky's definition of reality was the only valid one: "Man's relations with God and Satan". They knew that all other concepts of realism led to a fool's paradise.

This new spirit, termed in France, the *Renouveau Catholique*, was international in extent. It has grown so that today in widely different languages we find outstandingly artistic creative and critical works marked by this spirit influencing readers and younger writers. To familiar French names such as Claudel and Mauriac and to the English Evelyn Waugh and Graham Greene, we can immediately add the Norwegian Sigrid Undset and the Germans Gertrud von Le Fort, Romano Guardini, and Theodor Haecker, to mention but a few.

It would be interesting to consider various aspects of our present Catholic Renascence in its strict sense, but time will hardly permit. I should like, however, to call attention to the fact that outstanding writers and characteristics of this vital renascence were brilliantly discussed at the Tenth Anniversary Symposium of the Catholic Renascence Society, held at Manhattanville College in 1949. Canon Sobry of Louvain, Professor Hatzfeld of the Catholic University of America, Professor Frank O'Malley of the University of Notre Dame, and other speakers graced this program. So many requests for publication of the Symposium talks have been made that they will appear in print this May with the title *The Catholic Renascence*

in a Disintegrating World, under the imprint of the Loyola University Press.

In the opening address of the Symposium, Canon Sobry pointed out that any renascence results from (1) a consciousness of some value "that was lost or lost sight of, and is just now recovered", and (2) the desire to exploit this consciousness. The new consciousness of value which marks our present Catholic Renascence is the recovered awareness of the full significance of man's nature in all its relations. We see this awareness in art forms as various as fiction or poetry and in liturgical art and printing. The art exhibits of the Sheil School, here in Chicago, provide an example of this last awareness, as does our *Liturgical Arts* quarterly.

Then, one *American* aspect of the Renascence which calls for earnest consideration on our part comes to mind. We are inclined to look to the French Catholic Renascence as to a prototype. Since the French phase of the movement showed greater variety and activity than the English, and since the American phase has even to the present limped very slowly along after the French and English phases, we tend to look to the French writers and artists for guidance and to use them as a standard of comparison. I am convinced, however, that this attitude, natural as it is, presents a danger. The American temperament and the American social situation differ so greatly from the French (or English or Italian for that matter) that the French prototype offers American writers only limited guidance. Just compare Leon Bloy's *The Woman Who Was Poor* with novels written about the poor of America by Americans. I immediately think of Betty Smith's *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* and especially of Willard Motley's *Knock on Any Door*. A cursory reading of either of these books indicates that the problems, psychological and religious, of the American poor, are a world apart from those of the French underprivileged as viewed by Bloy. Betty Smith and Willard Motley strike me definitely as "men of good will" and as talented writers with some Catholic background. They lack, however, as do American men and women in general, the tradition and environment of Western culture — and Western culture is, after all, as Hilaire Belloc has ably demonstrated in *Europe and*

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the Faith, Graeco-Roman culture Christianized. Western culture and the Catholic faith are inseparable; the French still have some of this background; Americans lack it.

Therefore, until talented writers dealing with proletarian problems, such as Betty Smith and Willard Motley, have had an opportunity to imbibe the traditions of Western culture, we cannot expect American novels of the type written by Bernanos, Mauriac, and Bloy. And even should Catholic writers steeped in the spirit of Western culture appear, I do not think that they will produce novels very similar to the French in tone. They will be writing about men and women of a different temperament living in a distinct milieu. The characters, I should predict, will be less introspective — the characters, too, will be less preoccupied with sin and all forms of evil. We must face the fact that American culture is *in via ad — ad* something. But what the final synthesis will be is hard to predict. Meanwhile the spirit of the Catholic Renascence, the study and portrayal of man viewed from the eternal truths of man's nature and especially of his supernatural destiny, must be propagated in every way possible. It is the expression of these truths by Catholic writers today which explains why American readers in general in all their confusion find some satisfaction for their spiritual hunger in Catholic books and are putting them on the best seller lists.

Through the journal *Renascence* and by means of its symposia, the Catholic Renascence Society attempts to show that a study of the writers of the Catholic Renascence will recall to us the glorious heritage which Catholics possess. These writers show clearly that the *philosophia perennis*, which Aquinas and Bonaventure and Scotus erected upon the foundations of Aristotle and Plato, is still a vital force in the world of letters today. Acquaintance with the best writers of the

Renascence will further show that this *philosophia perennis* is but a stepping-stone to the realization that the nature of man can only be adequately understood in the light of Christ's revelation, that man is not only a dualistic being but a created being destined for union with Infinite Being in the Beatific Vision. This study will stimulate us to recall the fact that *sanctifying grace* has an essential place in man's complete life on earth, that peace — the *tranquilitas ordinis* of Augustine — is obtainable only when man's nature is completed by this *donum indebitum* of sanctifying grace. The outstanding writers of the Catholic Renascence reaffirm that in all great art this human compost of man must in some way be recognized in the light of the fact that

"This Jack, joke, poor potsherd, patch,
matchwood, immortal diamond,
Is immortal diamond."

And finally, although it is unquestionably true, as we have noted, that Catholic literature commands a position of respect never before accorded it in America, it is also true that American Catholic letters in terms of highly artistic creative writing are just beginning to flower. Meanwhile, much *non-American* writing of the present Catholic Renascence remains unexplored by American readers, and similarly many fields of creative writing remain to be explored by our young American writers. The Catholic Renascence Society is endeavoring to promote further exploration of this attractive horizon in both these directions.

And the Catholic Renascence Society is confident that in its endeavors it can count on the continued cooperation of the splendid body of trained librarians of the Catholic Library Association. The Catholic Renascence Society needs you; Catholic letters need you; the reading public of America needs you.



A MARIAN LIBRARY IN THE UNITED STATES¹

By REVEREND LAURENCE MONHEIM, S.M.
Director, Marian Library, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio

It was in 1943 at the University of Dayton that a Marian Library was begun. By Marian Library I mean not a library named after the person of Mary, simply, but one composed of books dealing only with Mary. It was never known either as Marion, or as Marianist Library, as some in error called it. To me, then, from the start, the Library meant to gather all possible types of the printed word dealing with Mary — therefore, books, pamphlets, clippings, articles.

To my knowledge at the time the Library in Dayton began, there was no such collection here in the United States, nor on this continent, nor in Europe. But since then, I have heard from or have had correspondence with several existing Marian Libraries: the most valuable being that in Rome, under the Servite Fathers, containing 7,000 volumes on Mary; the largest, in Banneux, Belgium, under a parish priest, Father Louis Arendt, containing 8,000 volumes on Mary; and a combination library-museum at Pontmain, France, a place of apparition. I do not know the extent of the collection in Pontmain.

Father Juniper Carol, O.F.M., has the largest private collection of specialized materials on the Blessed Virgin. He presently lives in New York and devotes his full time to the science of Mariology, both in the field of research and writing. He is president of the Mariology Society of America, founded in 1950, in Washington, D.C. His private collection on Mary easily runs to 2,000 items.

At the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a Marian Library was begun under the inspiration of Monsignor Bernard McKenna (at present a pastor in Philadelphia), then head of the Shrine. Since then (1927), the Marian Library there was not continued. However, in February, 1951, a news release from the NCWC reported the

formation of a committee of three to formulate plans for the development of the Marian Library at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The committee, whose function will be to select additions to the collection of volumes dealing with the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, will consist of Monsignor P. J. O'Connor, Director of the Shrine, Father Nicholas Grabowski, of the faculty of Sacred Theology, and Mr. Eugene P. Willging, Director of the Mullen Library of Catholic University. A cardinal principle of this committee will be the preservation of a balance between works in theology, history, art, and devotions, and only those books meeting the standards of the committee will be included.

This revival of the Marian Library at the Shrine in Washington is specifically in preparation for the celebration of the centenary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, in 1954. Since questions, materials, and problems dealing with the subject will be directed to the Shrine, it therefore is setting up a highly specialized library on all phases of the Immaculate Conception: dogma, history, devotions, etc.

In January, 1951, I had a communication telling me that Brother Cyril Robert, a Marist in New York City, had begun a Marian Library to be housed in their motherhouse in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Recent exact information as to what accessions Brother Cyril Robert has is not yet known to me, but he has issued one small Booklist containing 468 titles and in its introductory pages he writes: "Some day our Lady's Library will be housed in a beautiful building at Marian College in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Plans are being studied to design an exquisitely appropriate building to contain the collection of books, pamphlets, pictures, rosaries, etc." Booklist Number Two is on the press now, so he informs me.

1. Paper read at the Second General Session, Chicago Conference, March 29, 1951.

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For additional relative information, latest announcements are these: a Marian Library with an emphasis on Fatima, at Fatima, Portugal, under the aegis of the Dominican Fathers; and the establishment of a Marian Center, both for books and publications, in Nicolet, province of Quebec, Canada, under the inspiration of Mr. Roger Brien, editor of *Marie*. If any of my readers should hear of new Marian endeavors in this respect, I would deeply appreciate that information, in order that we all may work together, and thus eliminate unnecessary duplication of work and energy. In this union of all endeavors there will be a more valuable production in the field of Marian literature.

The Marian Library at the University of Dayton was established in 1943, a project begun then in preparation for the centenary of the Society of Mary in America in 1950. Since 1943, much has been accomplished. And it is of this, along with future plans, that I want to inform you, the Catholic librarians of the country.

I believe the idea of the Marian Library fits aptly and most interestingly into the theme of the 25th Annual Convention, *Unexplored Horizons*. In this *Age of Mary* (note Lourdes, LaSalette, Pontmain, Banneux, Fatima, Lipa; the Marian Congresses; the proclamation of recent Marian dogma; establishment of Mariological Societies; publication of many Marian books and pamphlets, etc.) it is time that the printed word on Mary be assembled in one place. It is my belief that there are no less than 250,000 (a quarter of a million) different books in existence today on Mary alone. Many of these books are out of print, many more will not be released (sold or exchanged) simply because owners (monasteries, schools, libraries, or individuals) want these for themselves.

When I began the Marian Library in Dayton, it was my objective to gather all I could of the printed word on Mary. Little did I realize then what a tremendous amount of existing material there is. My successor (and predecessor) Father Edmund Baumeister, S.M., now in St. Mary's University, in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and now planning a branch library (Marian) in Spanish there, had in 1944 experienced the actual difficulty of getting many Marian books either as gifts or by purchase. Consequently, he conceived

the idea of the Marian Library Union Catalogue. It is, I believe, unique. I know of no such Marian Union Catalogue elsewhere in the world. Surely it is a most interesting library tool in the field of research. To explain it.

The Marian Library Union Catalogue

Fieldworkers — and we have 100 of them in 15 countries of the world — record for us the author, title, publisher, date of publication, and pages of any book totally Marian, and send this record to us at Dayton. Private, public, parish, school, *any* library in the area of the fieldworker is checked for us, and these records are set up in our Marian Union Catalogue, a loose-leaf book, allowing for proper expansion as the numbers increase. With the aid of a code system, the Catalogue can tell us at a glance in which libraries (among those checked) the books on Mary can be found.

To date, the Marian Library has had her fieldworkers in Europe, Africa, Canada, and the Americas check more than 1,000 libraries, and we know now from the Union Catalogue that we have exact information on more than 8,000 Marian books. For libraries, for students of Mary, for researchers, this tool is a very handy one, as has been evidenced on numerous occasions by people who have written us for information.

The growth of the Union Catalogue is continuous. It will never be complete because there will always be checkings the world over for accessions new and old, in the field of Mary. Periodically this instrument could be issued in print for libraries, to be used as a reference work in the field of Mariology.

Booklist

Until now, the Marian Library of Dayton has printed several Booklists (these are not bibliographies by any means). The latest Booklist is that of 1949 containing 200 pages and having more than 10,000 titles of Marian books. It is neither complete, nor perfect, but it is a start, in a broad new field, and this work of Father Edmund Baumeister is praiseworthy. Such a Booklist of the Marian Library can be had for the asking.

It is my plan to continue this work of the Booklist, correcting the errors of the earlier

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ones and adding the more than 5,000 titles that are newly reported since 1949.

Classification System

Over a period of five years, a system for classifying our accessions (and the Library in Dayton has about 3,000 books now) was studied by trained librarians. A system was finally adopted in the summer of 1950, and the work of classifying our books began. A sample copy of the classification system is available by writing to the Library in Dayton. To our best knowledge it is the only existing classification system on Marian books.

Miscellaneous

The Marian Library does want *Marian magazines*. It has a complete set of *Ave Maria* from 1865 to 1951. But in the choice of magazines, a judgment has to be made as to which specific Marian periodicals will be kept in the Library. So often a magazine has a Marian title, but contains little or nothing that is strictly Marian. For the present, we are emphasizing such magazines as *Marie*, of Canada, a masterpiece in art and composition; *Marianum*, a strictly theological review from Italy; *Miriam*, a Marian popular review from Spain; *Scapular*, *Our Lady's Digest*, *Queen of All Hearts*, and others.

A *Newsletter* is edited monthly. This is sent to 2,000 interested people. If you would want to be on our mailing list, just let us have your name and address. The Newsletter is free. It is now in its sixth year of publication. Sample copies are available for the asking.

We also have gathered some *pictures*, a few victrola records (*Ave Maria*, *Magnificat*, etc.), some paintings, as well as some statues. But our principal interest is the *printed word*, which to us means books, either actual, or recorded in our *Union Catalogue*.

The Marian Library has purchased a beautiful *Fatima Film* which we are showing to those who request it. As religious films go, it is a good piece of work, 45 minutes showing time, in color and sound brought together by Paul Lawrence of San Anselmo, California.

Our Future Plans

1. A *Marian Bibliography* as complete as possible, arranging the books according to subject matter, and not according to author.

2. An extensive *Marian Booklist*, of all titles that we ever come across; and this list can best be done according to author.

3. A *Marian Essay Guide*, showing what has been written in this particular literary field, and where it can be found.

4. A *Marian Poetry Index*, for proper research along this line, making the vast field of Marian poetry more accessible to the lover of poetry.

5. A *Marian Drama Index*, giving the source of dramatic materials that deal with Mary.

6. A *Clipping File on Marian Items*, from papers, secular and religious, classified in the same manner as the books.

7. *Microfilms* of the best Marian books, or of books impossible to get.

8. *Audio-Visual Collection* of Marian materials dealing with the life, apparitions, shrines, relics, etc., in movies, in still pictures, in color, in three-dimensional, along with samples of what is available in posters dealing with Mary.

9. *Branch Libraries* or a Union of all Marian Libraries of the world — all of us working together, giving what mutual help we can to one another in this specialized field.

10. *Editing and Reprinting* of the better Marian books.

11. A *Clearing House* for any information on Mary.

12. *Purchase of Collections*, like the one in New York which is offered to us for \$8,000, the collection concerning the Marian Shrines of France, which consists of 10,000 items, and is the scientific work of Monsignor Leon Clugnet of France in 1890. Maurice Vloberg of Paris, author and specialist in Marian art, offers for sale some of his personal collection of books.

How Can You Help Us?

1. *Know* that there is a Marian Center in the United States which wants to service and be serviced in all things Marian.

2. *Guide* others to us via your bulletin boards, publicity in papers, speaking at meetings, and otherwise giving special emphasis to this specialized library, when occasion pre-

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sents itself, as in the Marian months of May and October, at Sodality conventions, etc.

3. *Ask our services:* books, questions, pamphlets, literature, booklists, etc.

4. *Check your own libraries*, and others of your area, for Marian accessions and send on a record card for these libraries, that we may insert them in our Marian Union Catalogue.

5. *Exchange or donate books.* Interlibrary loans.

6. *Find us fieldworkers* so that we can extend our services.

7. *Tell us* whenever there is anything worthwhile in Marian information, as did the University of Notre Dame with regard to the Clugnet collection of 10,000 Marian items.

THE VALUE OF LOCAL LIBRARY UNITS¹

By REVEREND A. A. KLEINSCHMIDT

Librarian, Pontifical College, Josephinum Library, Worthington, Ohio

It is almost impossible to consider the value of local library Units of the Catholic Library Association without at least a brief statement of the purpose of the national parent organization, and a little about the office of a Catholic librarian. The purpose of the Catholic Library Association is also the purpose of its Units. What this is was stated very briefly in *America*² in the following words: "The purpose of this organization shall be to initiate, foster, and encourage any movement directed toward the progress of Catholic library work." With the addition of "in this state or vicinity" this succinct statement of purpose applies to every local Unit as well. Anent the office of the Catholic librarian, we have just as brief a statement, again from *America*³: "The Catholic librarian has an office that touches the office of God's appointed ministers, namely, one single objective—that the truth of Christ be made known to all men." The librarian has, as the means towards this end, the arousing of interest in and the distribution of good Christian publications. What follows in this paper will, I hope, contain various suggestions for all of us as to how we can fulfill this duty as librarians and achieve the purpose of the Catholic Library Association through our local Units.

The first and perhaps most obvious result of local Unit meetings is that we meet and became acquainted with fellow-librarians in the district in which we work. The values of such acquaintanceships are innumerable. "Librarians, or at least most of them, are personable people. They are not only individuals who merely check books, type cards, dust books, or keep over-anxious pupils from tearing up the newest additions to the library in their effort to read them first. All librarians need and want corporate action, lest they become that very interesting but not important species which absorbs rather than exudes information; such a one has been called the 'hermit librarian'."⁴ More call him merely a shriveled-up book worm. Though the social aspect is present in them, the aim of local Unit meetings is not primarily social. The acquaintance of other librarians should result in far more than this.

It is fairly obvious that an annual meeting of Catholic librarians is far from adequate for corporate work among the Catholic librarians in this country. I do not intend to belittle the importance of these annual meetings. They are indispensable if the Catholic Library Association is to do anything at all of value to Catholic library work. They are something of a yearly librarians' retreat, where the various papers read are the conferences which cause us as librarians to ex-

1. Paper presented at the meeting of the Michigan Unit, October 29, 1950.

2. *America*, Aug. 29, 1931, p. 488.

3. *America*, July 2, 1932, p. 309.

4. *Ibid.*

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amine the consciences of our own libraries, and spur us on to renewed efforts to perfect the workings of these libraries of ours. But just as an annual retreat is not the only spiritual exercise we take part in, so neither should an annual convention be the only library examination of conscience we indulge in. Our local Unit meetings are more frequent and more personal gatherings intended to supplement the annual general convention, especially by the opportunity they give us to consider matters requiring closer or more frequent attention. They are something like a periodic Day of Recollection in our library work.

This criticism has been made, that the great majority of the library profession regard both the Catholic Library Association and the local Units with a considerable degree of indifference. "The basic cause is often the passive role with which most members are satisfied. Since they put little in they get little out. It seems to them that they are desired as members simply to swell the statistics of membership and to provide through their dues those funds which are then disposed of for the welfare of the profession by a certain small clique."⁵ This should, of course, not be our attitude towards any library Unit or meeting. That these meetings are considered by some as an event which breaks up the monotony of their work, is anything but complimentary to those who look at them in this light. A really conscientious librarian is too busy with his work to notice monotony. If breaking the monotony, however, means getting out of an undesirable rut and acquiring new enthusiasm for our work, then that result alone is sufficient reason for which to attend the meetings.

One of the observations often made at most meetings is the apparent lack of interest shown either through questions about or criticism of the papers presented to the group by the invited speakers. Too often we give the impression that a patient listening is all we are responsible for, and hence individual items of interest or specific difficulties are not brought to the fore. Because of our either unwillingness or hesitancy to break the ice in the presence of all those

in attendance, we fail to exert ourselves. Thus we lose the opportunity to make adequate use of the presence of the librarians.

With all this preceding, then, as something of an introduction and brief statement of faults found in our Units and meetings, let's proceed to particulars that should help to make these gatherings more profitable and make us want to take an active part in them.

The ones who probably should gain most from the local Unit meetings are the inexperienced or new librarians in attendance. For them this gathering of library personnel from a definite locality brings together all the local master-minds engaged in library work. Here is the new or inexperienced librarians' opportunity to present the difficulties that every librarian experiences at the beginning of his or her career. Why should he or she be satisfied with wasting precious time going through the same initial throes of administration, book selection, etc., when so many who have overcome similar difficulties effectively are on hand to help bridge the gap over this rough road by the span of proven and smooth-running methods of procedure? I think I can honestly say that anyone who has ever attended a library meeting and asked for help or suggestions in his work, has always found those present more than willing to comply with his request.

A second group of individuals who can both profit much by and contribute much to library work in a certain locality consists of the teachers and librarians (religious or lay) of grade and high schools. Even though it is true, it is still a sad reality that we have not as yet had either the time or the facilities to train enough librarians to care adequately for elementary and secondary school libraries. Attendance by those who are not trained librarians at meetings where adequately trained workers in this division of library work are present, offers an opportunity of learning what their aims should be and how to achieve them. Teachers who are not librarians become familiar with the difficulties of librarians through listening to the discussions held, and can often do an immense amount of good through active cooperation with the librarians after they understand these difficulties. School librarians, as well, can profit immeasurably

5. *Catholic Library World*, May, 1945, p. 294.

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from the remarks or suggestions made by the teachers present at their meetings.

Such a matter, for instance, as the selection of the proper books for the students in the several grades of the school, can receive valuable aid from the teachers in the various branches. For a librarian to be acquainted with the merits of all books published for grade and high school pupils in all the subjects taught in the school is an impossibility. To have the cooperation of the teachers in evaluating and selecting the best for the student-patrons is paramount to success. Something in this vein might be worked out: that from the regular book lists and publishers' lists which the librarians receive, a selection of all possible publications suited for grade or high school pupils be made. This could be a cooperative work undertaken by several librarians. And these lists could be brought to the attention of the teachers in the various branches, at the local Unit meeting. The teachers, then, could make their recommendations to the librarians as to which individual items should be purchased for the use of the pupils in the library.

The teachers' interest is thus enkindled, first of all, in the books included on the list; and examination of the selection acquaints them from the very beginning with the new additions to the library in their respective fields. Also, most of the teachers will be led to examine what books useful for their pupils are already on the library shelves. This in turn will result in the teachers referring their pupils not merely to the library or librarian for material supplementary to their classroom work, but to individual titles in the library. I have known still another action to result from this kind of teacher-librarian cooperation, namely, that the teachers, upon finding that one or the other volume which they possess is not on the library shelves, donate worthwhile books to the library to make such material available to their students. One teacher who did just this, remarked: "Why should I keep this in my library? Others can use it more conveniently if it is in the school library, and if I should want to use it, it will probably be easier to find there than on my not too well arranged shelves."

In the end, all—library, librarian, teachers, and pupils—profit considerably from such

an arrangement. This is merely one example of how discussion and cooperation between teachers and librarians at Unit meetings or as a result of local Unit meetings, can achieve greater efficiency in the use of a school library. One could mention many more equally useful outgrowths.

Another group which is not too numerous as yet, or too well organized or represented at Unit meetings, is that of hospital librarians. Frequently this work falls upon one of the nuns or nurses in the hospital who undertakes it because she feels the need therefor when it is wanting. Frequently, too, some local organization such as the Daughters of Isabella volunteers to supply and care for the library materials for the use of the patients. Here also, the ones in charge of the library have often no formal library training at all. Their willingness and industry in supplying patients with good books is admirable, but they could well be aided by suggestions from trained librarians.

Were such hospital librarians to contact other librarians at local meetings they could from the very beginning learn of and use such aids in their work as the A.L.A. monthly publication *Hospital Book Guide* which lists and annotates about 500 fiction and non-fiction titles a year; or the book *Hospital Libraries* by Edith K. Jones, also an A.L.A. publication; or the page for hospital librarians in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*. Ideas on the methods of distributing books among the patients could, for instance, be obtained from the November, 1949, issue of the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* in which was reprinted a letter from a "satisfied" patient-borrower.⁶ In it the procedure of one hospital's librarian is described. Even if the hospital librarians are not subscribers to the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*, one or more of the librarians who regularly attend the local Unit meetings could easily make a note of such pertinent material and report thereon at the meeting for the benefit of the hospital librarians.

Still another class of librarians whose attendance at local meetings can result in useful knowledge in their work, is that of parish librarians. If they get no more help than a summary of what appears regularly in the

6. *Catholic Library World*, November, 1949, p. 54.

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CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD on the parish librarians' page, their attendance would be compensated for. The questions submitted and the answers given over a period of time, could well occupy for an hour or two a group of parish librarians attending the local Unit meetings. The same issue of the CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD referred to above⁷ contains an extremely valuable item for parish librarians, in the form of a list of about 100 basic books for a parish library. This or other such lists which appear occasionally could form sufficient material for a lengthy discussion among parish librarians at a Unit meeting. Those among these librarians who receive the CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD each month could be held responsible for the evaluation of these lists, basing their remarks about the books on a reading of the reviews which have appeared.

The practical value of local Unit meetings for the various kinds of librarians should, I think, be fairly evident by now to all. Concerning those who do not fall into any of the groups mentioned, it may be said that whatever was described as a possible advantage for the various groups of librarians involves the cooperation of all present at the local meetings. Also, even if no formal discussion is held on a topic of particular interest to one or another group of librarians in the audience, there is never a talk or paper from which some good cannot be derived by each member present. For example, at the last Columbus, Ohio, Unit meeting, held at our seminary three weeks ago, we had as our speaker a Mr. Malone, the director of the Columbus Gallery of Art. Before the meeting I asked myself: "What can I get out of a talk by a man in this position? How many of our students will I be able to interest in the things of art even if this speaker tells us what basic books and periodicals we should have?" After I left the meeting I had something that I could definitely put to immediate use for our college students. It was this:

During the course of his discussion of "Art through the Library" the speaker mentioned an exhibit of paintings which he had attended during the past year. The exhibit was called "Two Thousand Years of

Flowers". It presented, among other things, a history of some of the better-known flowers. For example, it showed that the presence of the tulip in Holland resulted from an endeavor to supplement the stock of potatoes in that country. The bulbous roots of the tulip were imported from Persia to Holland in the hope that they could be used in place of potatoes. It sketched also the history of the peony, a flower whose cultivation and improvement came about because of the Chinese belief that it had powers to preserve man from temptations to carnal lust. Since it is often the librarian's task to advise students as to their choice of a topic for a term paper for their English writing and research course, I promptly suggested to a couple of students that they consider looking for other interesting histories of flowers that today beautify so many of our American parks and lawns.

I would like to conclude this talk with a summary of some of the cooperative endeavors that have been undertaken by local Units of the C.L.A. up till now, in the hope that no one can later find any reason for saying that local Units can be of no particular value to his or her library.

A very helpful service, for instance, that has been inaugurated in a Unit is that of periodical exchange and borrowing. Since not every library can keep complete files of all the Catholic periodicals it receives regularly, an arrangement has been made whereby all the Catholic periodicals are kept on file within a certain locality by the various libraries. The patrons of each library, then, by having access to the *Catholic Periodical Index* in their own libraries, can fairly easily obtain the various issues in which material on their topic is contained. Each of the cooperating libraries has a list of the Catholic periodicals on file in the district, with an indication as to which library has which periodical.

Again, cooperative buying is another idea that has been indulged in and acted upon by a local Unit. A local bookstore manager is asked to supply a list of all current books which might possibly be of interest to the school librarians in the district. This list is examined and titles selected therefrom by the school librarians at their Unit meetings. A combined order then for all the books

7. *Ibid.*, pp 52-53.

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which are considered worthwhile for the various libraries is submitted to the book store, with the result that the libraries in question receive the benefit of quantity discounts.

In another local Unit, the college librarians who receive the *ALA Bulletin* or the *Publishers' Weekly* report on the free or inexpensive material listed in those publications which could be of value to the elementary and high school libraries represented at the Unit meetings.

Other similar cooperative efforts can easily be found by paging through "News and Notes" in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*, where the activities of the various Units are regularly reported.

In closing, I wish to add an evaluation of local Unit meetings made by Brother Thomas in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* fifteen years ago: "No agency is so calculated to infuse the library spirit in a community so well as the local meetings. It is not the kind of thing one can adequately talk or write about. The very concept is a concept of action. If such Units are adequately set up and effectively conducted in as many centers of Catholic libraries as possible, the net aggregate will be an ever-expanding and ever-widening field for the dissemination of the ideas and the ideals of the C.L.A."⁸

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8. *Catholic Library World*, March, 1936, p. 54.

RESIGNATION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

On May 1, the following letter was sent to Mr. John M. O'Loughlin, President of the Catholic Library Association, and to the members of the Executive Council:

Dear Mr. O'Loughlin:

After careful consideration, it seems to me that I can best serve the needs and objectives of the Catholic Library Association in the capacity of Editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index*, with which I have been so intimately connected for the past thirteen years. In view of this fact, I am therefore relinquishing the position of Executive Secretary, to take effect as soon after June 30, 1951, as is possible. This will allow the new appointee to the position of Executive Secretary the opportunity to commence his work at the beginning of the new fiscal year; it will further afford him the advantage of the summer months to organize his routines and prepare his plans and schedules for the printing of the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*. I shall be happy to assist the new appointee in whatever way I can.

We shall meanwhile carry on the regular routines of the office until the new appointment is announced, at which time we shall make arrangements for the closing out of the bank account and the transfer of records and files to the new office.

Since your time is somewhat limited, I am presuming upon your approval to send a copy of this letter to the other officers and present and immediately-past members of the Executive Council.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,
(signed) LAURENCE A. LEAVEY
Executive Secretary

The Executive Council has been unable to meet or to complete action on the new appointment up to this time.

L. A. L.

Twenty-Fifth Annual Conference

GENERAL SESSIONS

FIRST GENERAL SESSION

On the morning of Tuesday, March 27, the Twenty-fifth Annual Conference was opened with the celebration of Solemn Mass Coram Pontifice at the Cathedral of the Holy Name, Chicago, by the Rev. Thomas J. Shanahan, Past President of the Catholic Library Association. His Eminence Cardinal Stritch presided and delivered the sermon. In the afternoon, the First General Session was held at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, at 2:30. Presiding was Mr. John O'Loughlin, President of the Association. The secretary was Miss M. Lillian Ryan.

The address of welcome was delivered by Sister Mary Aurelius, B.V.M., chairman of local arrangements for the Conference. Her address follows:

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Members of the Catholic Library Association . . . and Guests: The Illinois Unit of this active and important organization is happy to have you here! *Each one of us extends to each one of you . . . a most cordial welcome!* It is seventeen years since our last national meeting in Chicago, so it is quite fitting that we make it a jubilee occasion—a silver jubilee. We hope that it will be just that for you.

Though we come together from quite different locales, as librarians we meet on mutual grounds. Neither library joys nor library problems seem to have territorial boundaries. We of the Illinois region have profited much from our unit meetings, exchanging ideas and stimulating interests. It is our hope that the national session will broaden horizons for all of us, give us new enthusiasms, send us back to our books with fresh zeal, creative outlooks, new dedications to service.

Here in the Midwest, Catholic library work has kept pace with Catholic education. It has progressed hand in hand with educators to advance the cause of Catholic culture. Whether you are working out your salvation in a seminary library, an elementary school library, or any one of the several other library spheres, you our guests will find fellow workers among our Illinois Unit members. Besides working earnestly towards the purposes for which they were established, several libraries in our group have developed and are continu-

ing to develop important specialties. At Loyola you will want to see the Jesuitica and Newman Collections, and at De Paul the Napoleonica and Irish Collections. Well worth the long ride out to St. Mary of the Lake Seminary is the opportunity to see the Theological collections. In nearby River Forest, Rosary College maintains an excellent Library School. On the South side, St. Xavier has American Catholic Church archival material, and on the North side, Mundelein College will be proud to show you its Rothensteiner Collection. And then there are numerous well-conducted high school libraries, and several fine elementary school libraries. Parish and hospital libraries are doing splendid work in many sections of this Midwest. Catholic librarians in the public library system, whether in the central building or in large or small branches, or in schools, are amazingly alert to their opportunities.

After you sojourn in our fair city, I think you will agree that the Illinois Unit represents a good cross-section of the Catholic Library Association in the United States.

If there are some of you—and I hope there are many of you—who have felt that "you must go on and see Chicago" as St. Paul felt that he must "go on and see Rome", let me assure you, that in this city where you must hold on to your hats, and pin down your veils, our hearts and our doors are open to greet you. If the temperature is displeasing to you at the moment, we say in Chicago: "If you don't like our weather, wait ten minutes; it will change."

Our tour committee has prepared itineraries for scenic Chicago and for Catholic Chicago. They want you to investigate their plans and to enjoy the results. They want you to carry away with you a glimpse of Chicago as a center of culture and a source of faith. Your souls will expand as you view the El Greco near the main doors of the Art Institute, as you feel the moisture in the air and gaze upon the broad waves of Lake Michigan, as you kneel in the quiet dimness of St. Peter's and old St. Mary's.

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As our good Cardinal said this morning:
"We are happy to have you here."

At the conclusion of Sister Mary Aurelius' words of welcome, Mr. O'Loughlin read a telegram from Sister Mary Reparata, O.P., retiring President, in which she extended her good wishes to the convention for the success of the meeting. Felicitations to Sister Reparata for her improvement in health were expressed by Mr. O'Loughlin.

The chairman then introduced Dr. Pierce Butler, Professor in the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, who discussed "Some Recent Trends in Librarianship".

This address was followed by a paper presented by the Rev. Norman Weyand, S.J., head of the English Department of Loyola University, reviewing "The Catholic Renascence, An Unexplored Horizon".

The Very Rev. Msgr. Harry Koenig outlined a report on "The Catholic Periodical Index". Action on the following points was recommended to be taken by the convention: (1) The complete report of the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* be published in either the April or May issue of the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*; (2) the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* be given actual control over the *C.P.I.* so that the editor will be subject to the committee and the committee be given access to the financial records; (3) the editor of the *C.P.I.* be a separate person from the executive secretary of the Catholic Library Association and the editor of the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*.

M. LILLIAN RYAN,
Secretary

SECOND GENERAL SESSION

The Second General Session was held in the Bal Tabarin of the Hotel Sherman on Thursday, March 29, 1951; the Very Rev. Msgr. Harry C. Koenig, chairman, Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index*, presiding; Miss Mary M. Morrissey, librarian, Taft High School, Chicago, Illinois, secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M., and was opened with a prayer by the Rev. Colman J. Farrell, O.S.B. The address of Mr. John M. O'Loughlin, President, was read by title. A paper entitled "A Marian Library in the United States" was read by the Rev. Laurence Monheim, S.M., Director, Marian Library, University of Dayton. Sister M. Norberta, I.H.M., Director, Department of Librarianship, Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania, gave a paper on "Recruiting for Librarianship".

At the conclusion of the papers, Msgr. Koenig turned the meeting over to Mr. John M. O'Loughlin, President.

Business Session

The President expressed his thanks to the organization by saying he would do everything to justify their confidence. He read a telegram from Sister M. Reparata, O.P., retiring President.

Father Baum offered a prayer for the repose of the soul of Sister Fides.

The Executive Secretary, Mr. Laurence A. Leavy, gave the annual report of the Catholic Library Association.

Msgr. Koenig as chairman gave the report of the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* and reported the recommendations of that committee, as follows:

"As a result of its long investigation, the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* offers the following recommendations:

1. The editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index* be a separate person from the Executive Secretary of the Catholic Library Association and the editor of the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*.

"2. The Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* be given executive powers over the *Catholic Periodical Index*; that the editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index* be subject to this committee and that the full financial records concerning the *Catholic Periodical Index* be furnished to this committee.

"3. The editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index* is to be appointed by the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index*, subject to the approval of the Executive Council.

"4. The Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* consist of five members, of whom three should reside in the vicinity of the editorial office, two representing other sections of the country. The membership of the committee should be divided among the different institutional types, such as college and university, seminary, and high school. It is also recommended that the Constitution of the Catholic Library Association be so amended that the members may serve for five years and that the initial terms of office be so arranged that one member serve for one year, another for two years, another for three years, another for four years and the chairman for five years.

"As chairman of the present committee, therefore, I offer the following motion:

"That these recommendations be adopted by the members of the Catholic Library Association attending the 1951 convention."

Mr. Eugene P. Willging as sponsor of the motion to form that committee last year expressed appreciation to Msgr. Koenig and the committee. Mr. O'Loughlin thanked the committee on behalf of the Catholic Library Association. The President requested that if there were no objections (and there were none) the reading of the committee report be dispensed with since that report was to be published.

Msgr. Koenig then asked for questions on the *Catholic Periodical Index*.

Brother Arthur Goerdt, S.M., asked a question

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on the subject of salaries, if the positions of Executive Secretary of the Catholic Library Association and editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index* were split. Msgr. Koenig replied that the present salary of the editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index* is \$3,300. A new editor would cost from \$3,800 to \$4,400. The *Catholic Periodical Index* could afford this because of added subscriptions if it appears on time.

The Rev. A. L. Bouwhuis, S.J., had some questions on the financial report. For example, since no office rent had been charged to the *Catholic Periodical Index*, how is the Catholic Library Association planning to finance the extra expense? Msgr. Koenig replied that the 35-page report would go into this matter. The *Catholic Periodical Index* financial report does not show assets. Therefore, the committee recommends a new financial statement and that the committee be in charge of the *Catholic Periodical Index*.

Father Farrell made certain that there was to be no reflection on the Executive Secretary's accounting or on the record-keeping. Msgr. Koenig said he had never intended to reflect on Mr. Leavy and would apologize in public if he had done so, but the fact of the matter was that the committee had gone time and again to headquarters but the financial reports were not there. Mr. William Roehrenbeck, a member of the subcommittee in New York, reported that all records are available, that the financial affairs of the *Catholic Periodical Index* and the Catholic Library Association are intermingled and so it is difficult to separate items pertaining to the *Catholic Periodical Index*. Therefore, sometimes the items specially concerning the *Catholic Periodical Index* are unobtainable.

Mr. Gillard stated that he would like the report passed in toto. Msgr. Koenig did not favor this because the report has several points which should be read and considered and the new committee should have leeway to do as it thinks best. Mr. Gillard objected that this would delay the action too long.

Msgr. Koenig moved that the above recommendations be passed. Seconded.

Some discussion of the recommendations again followed. Father Farrell on the first recommendation thought that the two positions should

not be separated but that the Executive Secretary should receive competent help. Msgr. Koenig stated the committee's opinion that each job is large enough and an editor, not another indexer, is needed and it will be easier to get an editor with full responsibility. Mr. Willging stated that Mr. Leavy would have his choice between the two positions.

One of the Sisters brought up the question of adjustment of salary. Msgr. Koenig replied that the Financial Committee is studying this problem but so far this has not been settled. The Sister thought that there should be a public expression of change in remuneration. Msgr. Koenig replied that this is in the report and it will be done when possible.

The President called for the question. Unanimous vote to accept the recommendations.

Brother Aurelian Thomas, F.S.C., moved that Section 10 (b) of the Constitution be deleted and replaced by:

"All officers of regional conferences, joint sessions or units and all official delegates to national conventions must be members of the Catholic Library Association."

Motion seconded.

Mr. Willging commented, as it had been discussed before the Advisory Board, on the probability of official delegates representing units. Therefore, delegates to national Catholic Library Association conventions would have to be officers of units.

Mr. Gillard suggested that other sections of the Constitution might be changed as a result of the recommendations of Msgr. Koenig. Therefore, why have this motion considered? The President pointed out that the Constitution would not be revised until next year.

Motion reread by Brother Thomas. Question. Motion passed (five opposed).

Discussion pro and con on place and time of meetings.

Discussion pro and con on question of joint meetings with National Catholic Educational Association and American Library Association.

Mr. Gillard moved we adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

MARY M. MORISSEY,
Secretary

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council met in two sessions at the Hotel Sherman on March 26th in the Moby Dick Room at 3:45 P.M. and on March 29th in the Bull Fight Room at 3:20 P.M. Because there was no Mid-Winter meeting of the Executive Council, a large agenda was presented for consideration and action. Added to this unusually large list of items to be considered were the

various problems attendant on the report of the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index* and the methods of implementing the proposals outlined by the committee.

The first matter for consideration by the assembled group was the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 1951, to June 30, 1952. Upon presentation of the financial report with schedules for

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1949-1950 and 1950-1951 of expected income and actual income, of expected disbursements and actual disbursements, the very fine condition of finances in the Association was evident. Despite this rosy picture the budget prepared by the Executive Secretary manifested a caution arising from world conditions, rising prices, and inflationary trends in the proposed budget for the new year.

The first action of the Executive Council was to accept, after discussion and questioning, the financial report as presented by the Executive Secretary. The budget, however, was put off until later so that the Council might have time to assess the new types of obligations which might arise from separating the finances of the Association and of the *Catholic Periodical Index*.

Next matter of discussion was the report of the Committee on Elections, in which the figures were officially presented to the Council. Lamenting the fact that only 50 per cent of the Association was represented in the number of votes cast, the Council accepted unanimously the report of the committee. In reply to a request from Mr. Phillips Temple, the committee then turned its attention to the question of sponsoring the publication on microfilm or on microcard of a complete collection of papal encyclicals. After some discussion, it was moved that the date 1900 be set as a mark of departure and that encyclicals prior to that time be brought out on microfilm or microcard and that the publication of annual volumes since that date be suggested as the method favored by the Association.

After a discussion of Catholic Book Week, Monsignor Koenig, Chairman of the C.P.I. Committee, Miss Lillian Ryan, Mr. Phillips Temple, Mr. Eugene Willging, Rev. Homer Matlin, S.J., and Mr. William Roehrenbeck, members of the committee and subcommittee, were admitted to the session. Following their admission, the Executive Council continued discussion of the *Catholic Periodical Index* with the committee for over an hour. The points of discussion centered on the question of the preparation of the report of the committee; the methods of bringing the findings of the committee to the attention of the membership, both at the General Session and throughout the country; and the means of putting into effect the various suggestions and recommendations noted in the report.

The second session of the Executive Council considered among other proposals the suggestion of Monsignor Hochwalt and the letter of Mr. Eugene Willging that the Catholic Library Association avail itself of space in the building of the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C., for its national headquarters. A suggestion was made in a letter from Miss Olga Peterson that the next annual conference of the Association be held in Houston, Texas. The H. W. Wilson Company reported to the Executive Council on

the possibilities of royalties on the *Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries*. Sister Norberta in reporting for the Committee on the *Catholic Supplement* told the Executive Council of the expenses incurred by Marywood College in providing this service for librarians, and asked that these expenses be underwritten by the Association from the royalties that might accrue.

At the suggestion of Sister Norberta it was moved that the 1952 conference of the Association be held in conjunction with the A.L.A. in New York. It was voted that the 26th Annual Conference shall be held in New York during the approximate period, June 22nd to June 26th, 1952. Only Mr. O'Loughlin voted against this proposal.

The Council directed that a note of congratulations should be sent to Sister Loyola, former Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, who was to be professed in the Convent of the Visitation, Wilmington, Delaware, on April 12, 1951. A telegram of good wishes was directed to be sent to the retiring President, Sister Mary Reparata, O.P. The rest of this long session was directed to the implementation of the resolutions introduced by the Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index*.

A great deal of time was occupied in breaking down the financial resources of the Association into two separate budgets, that of the Association and that of the *Catholic Periodical Index*. Father Bouwhuis led much of the discussion on the financial independence of the two budgets and, following the meeting, sent copies of his proposed financial arrangements to the members of the Executive Council.

Among the other items taken up before the close of the meeting, was the suggestion by Father Bouwhuis that the Association publish lists of spiritual reading for young people on the high school and college levels.

The Council unanimously approved the official establishment of the Louisville Unit of the C.L.A. and expressed its opinion on a constitutional matter brought to its attention by the members of the Scranton Diocesan Unit, which affected the transfer of personal memberships. The Council ruled that personal memberships, and the privileges of such memberships, may not be transferred to another individual. Only in the case of institutional memberships may the privileges be transferred to the institution's official representative.

Two Committees were unanimously accepted by the Executive Council: the one a Committee on Reference Works and the other a Committee to award prizes for distinctive contributions to the profession. When the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M. many items had still to be discussed. Mr. O'Loughlin, President, promised to carry on as much of this business as possible by mail.

BROTHER A. THOMAS, F.S.C.

ROUND TABLE SESSIONS

BOARD AND ROUND TABLE SESSIONS

ADVISORY BOARD

The meeting of the Advisory Board was called to order at 1:05 P.M. on Tuesday, March 27, by the chairman, Mr. John M. O'Loughlin, who asked Rev. Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., to offer the opening prayer. Mr. O'Loughlin then extended to Very Rev. Msgr. Harry C. Koenig, chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee on the Mass, the congratulations of the members of the Association for the beautiful ceremonies of that morning, and requested that he personally thank His Eminence Cardinal Stritch for presiding at the Mass and preaching the sermon.

At the recommendation of the chairman, in order to conserve time, the unit reports were not read but were to be submitted and condensed for printing in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*. Mr. O'Loughlin stated that the panel of new committee officers was in preparation and would be ready for announcement at an early date, and he then requested the present chairmen of committees to read the summaries of their reports.

The reports of the following committees were read by their chairmen: Cataloging and Classification; Catholic Periodical Index; Elementary School Libraries; Hospital Libraries; List of Books for High School Libraries; Catholic Book Week. The chairmen of the other committees were not in attendance, and their reports are to be printed in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*.

The meeting was then turned over to the floor for a discussion of the agenda, which were based on the returns from the members of the Advisory Board.

Mr. Willging suggested that the Advisory Board consider the advisability of changing Section 10 (b) of the Constitution, which states: "No one is permitted to join a Regional Conference, Joint Session, or Unit, who is not a member of the Catholic Library Association." After discussion on this point, with non-conformity in practice noted, Brother A. Thomas, F.S.C., introduced a motion whereby Section 10 (b) may be changed and only officers of a unit be required to be members of the Association. This was seconded by Mr. Willging. But the motion was withdrawn when attention was called to the possible revision of the Constitution as a whole, with the appointment of new personnel for the Committee on the Constitution, which will have the duty of submitting proposed changes to the Advisory Board.

Discussion of boundary lines for Units then ensued. Brother Thomas noted that it was the wish of the Executive Council that Units be formed along diocesan lines. Father Bouwhuis stated that in some instances a regional division may be advisable, as there may be few members within a diocesan area at the time of the establishment of a Unit. A change in the name of the Midwest Unit was suggested, to indicate more precise boundaries.

In the observance of Catholic Book Week, it was urged by Miss Eleanor McCann that greater parish cooperation be sought and that equal consideration be given to both adults and children. Brother Thomas stated that the ensuing discussion revealed the necessity of work by the local units for the successful observance of Catholic Book Week. Sister Mary Borgia, S.S.J., suggested that the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* should carry an article interpreting the theme each year, so that there would be no confusion on the part of the members participating in the observance.

Monsignor Koenig noted that discussion of the *Catholic Periodical Index 1934-1938*, included in the agenda, was contained in his report which would be read at the First General Session and published later.

Sister Norberta, I.H.M., expressed concern that a question had been raised, on the agenda, about the necessity of bringing up to date the *Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries*. She noted that, though there had been a delay in appointing a chairman for this committee, Dr. Helen Butler had since her appointment worked most diligently on the 1948-1950 *Supplement*, now published, and was now preparing material for the 1952 edition. Sister Norberta also recommended that a list of Catholic periodicals be included in the *Supplement*, since there was no such list. Attention was called to the fact that Mr. Richard Hurley had compiled a list of Catholic periodicals, which was later revised, and both lists had appeared in the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*. It was suggested that Mr. H. W. Wilson be consulted about inclusion of a basic periodical list in the *Catholic Supplement to the S.C.H.S.L.*

Since there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION

The Cataloging and Classification Round Table met at 10 A.M. on March 28, in the Grey Room of the Hotel Sherman. Rev. Gilbert C. Peterson, S.J., librarian of St. Mary's College, Kansas City, Kans., presided. The meeting was opened with

a prayer led by Father Klansmith. Preceding the business session papers were to be given by Mrs. Jeanette Lynn, Mr. Philip McNiff, and Mr. Harry Dewey. Due to illness in her family, Mrs. Lynn was not there in time to give her paper. Mr.

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McNiff was unable to attend; however, his paper, "Simplified Processing and Procedures in the Lamont Library", was read by Father Peterson. In his paper Mr. McNiff stated that the Lamont Library has devised a new scheme for the classification of its books, the decimal system being carried out to only one place. Rev. Andrew Bouwhuis, S.J., spoke in Mr. McNiff's behalf and stressed the point that the library's main objective is to get the boys close to the books as quickly as possible. Mr. Dewey then gave his paper on "Pre-Cataloging" which he explained as a process in which a catalog card, with least available matter, is placed in the card catalog before the book is ordered. He gave three advantages of pre-cataloging: (1) all books are available for circulation; (2) persons requesting books are notified; (3) rush cataloging is eliminated.

The election of a vice-chairman was next on the agenda. Rev. Colman J. Farrell, O.S.B., St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kans., was elected.

Following this, there was a discussion of the Lynn *Alternative Classification for Catholic Books*. Mr. Eugene Willging, of the Catholic University, began the discussion by expressing his opinion that the revision of the Classification scheme that Father Peterson had recently sent out was quite full and complete, but there was still a great need for a detailed general index.

Father Arthur Riley, in a letter to Father Peterson, stated that in the matter of Saints the Library of Congress system should be followed, by changing from surname to given name; also that the local situation and the book have to be taken into consideration when classifying a book.

Father Rossini stated that concordats belong in Canon Law.

In regard to Western authors, Father Burke seemed to think that, instead of favoring living people, an alphabetical arrangement would be a better arrangement.

Father Bouwhuis suggested that scope notes should be incorporated into the revision. He also felt that the index should be more complete than in the first edition, yet not too detailed.

The question of the dioceses was next discussed. It was decided to follow in the revised edition the decimal system used in Mrs. Lynn's first edition.

Father Burke stated that attention to continuing the work and a vote of appreciation to Father Peterson and Mrs. Lynn should be given.

As there was no further business, Father Peterson resigned his chairmanship in favor of Miss Josephine Savaro, chairman-elect, and the meeting was adjourned.

BARBARA J. SCHNEIDER,
Secretary

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARIES

The meeting of the Elementary School Libraries Section of the Catholic Library Association was held on Wednesday, March 28, at 10 A.M., at the Sherman Hotel in the House on the Roof.

Sister M. Borgia, S.S.J., librarian, Marymount High School, Garfield Heights, Ohio, and chairman of Elementary School Libraries, presided. Catherine J. Butler, librarian, Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pa., acted as secretary.

Referring to the theme of the 25th Annual Conference, "Unexplored Horizons", Sister Borgia very aptly used the "child" as an excellent example.

Dr. Charles B. Huelsman, Jr., Director of Reading Service, Catholic Youth Organization, Chicago, Ill., was introduced as an "Apostle of Youth". His subject was "Analysis and Solution of Major Reading Difficulties of Elementary School Children". Dr. Huelsman considered this particular "unexplored horizon" as an extremely intriguing one. He stated that we are faced with the difficulties of identification of, analysis of, and solution of the problem. He believes that all librarians are teachers because they are making it possible for children to learn.

Dr. Huelsman used an article in the *Sunday Visitor* of March 18th by Hubert N. Hart as the background of his discussion, and considered basically good public relations as the most important factor involved. The need to interpret school functions to parents and for cooperation from parents was expressed. Because the attitude of children conditions their learning, the attitude

of parents must be considered. The parents' attitude is reflected in their children. Reading readiness training is dependent upon building attitudes and desires and creating positive attitudes.

Dr. Huelsman identified the major reading difficulties of elementary school children as: motives, word recognition, comprehension, interpretation, and integration. It is important that the child want to learn to read, and later that he want to learn through reading. The success of the school library depends upon the philosophy of the faculty, upon parent cooperation, upon the child's interest. The child's interest can be stimulated by a variety of methods. Providing quantities of reading material is desirable so that children may read interesting books at their achievement levels. Teachers should have an opportunity to study children and should coordinate the agencies in their community that can help them. Good public relations with the faculty, with the parents, with the community, are essential to direct the learning of the child.

Sister M. Patrice, S.P., Our Lady of Sorrows School, Chicago, was introduced and read a paper on "Reading Action Devices in the Elementary School Library". A pleasant cheerful atmosphere was considered a very important device, as was also a quantity of good books. To begin early and acquire a knowledge and love of good books slowly is another important device. We should make every teacher library-minded and, above all, keep our own faith in the power of good books, and work to strengthen children's permanent

ROUND TABLE SESSIONS

interest in reading. Some very helpful suggestions were given as to mechanical devices that could be applied in our own libraries to advantage.

In thanking the speakers, Sister Borgia asked that their speeches be sent to the *CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD* for publication, in order that more members of C.L.A. might benefit by them.

Demonstrations of book reporting techniques by boys and girls from local schools followed on the primary level, intermediate level, and advanced level. They were actually discussion groups and showed a great deal of originality. The books discussed were well chosen, but pointed out that there is conflict between adult standards and children's choices.

The demonstrations were presented by Sister Patrice with this thought: "The cover of a book is like a door which opens up a house where we've

not been before." Primary level was presented by Sister M. Carmel, O.S.F., and students of St. Joseph's School, Wilmette, Ill. Intermediate level by Sister Ann Kathleen, S.P., and students of Our Lady of Sorrows School, Chicago. Advanced level, by Sister M. Dorine, S.S.N.D., and students of St. Ambrose School, Chicago.

The business session followed. Sister M. Borgia announced that Miss Jane Bruce, Secretary, Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, Wis., will be chairman in 1951-52. Miss Catherine J. Butler, librarian, Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pa., and present secretary of the Elementary School Libraries, will become vice-chairman and chair-elect. The election of a secretary will be announced by Sister Borgia.

CATHERINE J. BUTLER,
Secretary

COLLEGE LIBRARIES

The College Library Round Table was held on Wednesday afternoon, March 28, in the House on the Roof, Hotel Sherman, Chicago. Approximately 110 librarians were in attendance.

After the opening prayer, the chairman, Sister M. Claudia, introduced the speakers of the program. In the absence of Mr. Philip McNiff, Mr. Phillips Temple, librarian, Georgetown University, read the paper, "Lamont Undergraduate Library". There was no discussion.

Miss Olga Peterson, librarian, University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, presented the paper, "The Possible We Do Immediately". In the discussion which followed, the problem of faculty-overdue books was introduced. Father Jovian Lang, Quincy College, Ill., offered several reasons for this problem: (1) books were given to converts for study and faculty members were reluctant to recall them; (2) library books were used as a supplement to textbooks and as such were required for entire semester or school year; (3) the chief cause of failure to return library books within a reasonable length of time was faculty negligence. Father Lang suggested as a last resort that the librarian, with a book truck and a date stamper, visit the faculty offices and pick up books a faculty member no longer needs and renew those he wishes to keep. Sister Malachi, O.P., librarian, Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Mich., felt that a system of carefully worded notices stressing student need for the overdue books was effective.

The third and last paper, "Micro-Reproduction", was presented by Mr. Eugene B. Power, University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Mich. Several questions were asked about the comparative costs and usefulness of the microcard *vs* microfilm. Mr. Power pointed out that there is no likelihood that either cards *or* films will "win out" as both are useful and, contrary to current opinion, both are of equal cost. Mr. Power discussed the fact that periodicals over five years old decrease in usefulness. Studies show that such periodicals are referred to on an average of twice a year, and periodicals ten years old are referred to only once a year. The increas-

ing cost of housing and the rapid rate of disintegration in newspapers and early periodicals makes the expense prohibitive. The cost of a thirty-year file of newspapers was estimated at \$10,000 while the microfilm cost was only \$7,700. A twenty-year file of a periodical cost \$120 while microfilming cost only \$60. In the discussion Father Francis X. Canfield, Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit, brought up the topic of the microfilming of the *Michigan Catholic* and reminded members that orders for copies were being taken.

Miss Elaine Rudden, Catholic University, introduced the topic of interlibrary loan costs. Over 1,400 items were mailed in 1949-50 school year from Catholic University at average cost of \$2.00 an item. She suggested that as the burden of requests was for masters' theses, these theses be microfilmed and sold to borrower. Mr. Alphonse P. Trezza, librarian, University of Pennsylvania, stated that 3,000 items were borrowed from University of Pennsylvania last year but the university had borrowed approximately the same number of items, so costs were about even.

The business meeting followed. Sister Claudia announced that Miss Olga Peterson, chairman-elect, was resigning from the chairmanship of the 1952 conference due to the fact that she was leaving the library profession in June. Nominations were in order for a chairman and a chairman-elect. Father Jovian Lang nominated Sister Annette, Briar Cliff College, Sioux City, Iowa. Father Ambrose Burke, T.O.R., seconded the nomination. Sister Annette was elected. For vice-chairman (chairman-elect) Brother Joseph, LaSalle College, Philadelphia, and Mr. Alphonse Trezza were nominated. Mr. Trezza was elected.

Sister Claudia announced that several members had asked her to introduce the discussion of an all-day session for the College Library Section. Father Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., Canisius College, urged members to consider an all-day session as it is impossible to discuss all problems at one brief period. Father Redmond Burke, DePaul University, felt that one period was sufficient but

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it was essential that only Catholic problems (problems peculiar to Catholic institutions) be discussed at this period. ALA meetings, he stated, are available for those who wished to bring up general problems. Father Bouwhuis said ALA meetings were too big and general to discuss the problems peculiar to small schools. Father Vincent Negherbon, T.O.R., St. Francis College, Loretto, Pa., felt that an all-day session was a necessity. Father Thomas Shanahan, St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., said it would be impossible to give a full day session to the College Library Section as the conference program was already crowded and

another day added to the week would inconvenience many librarians. He felt that the Cataloging and Classification Section held in the morning was essentially a college meeting, so that the College Section really had an all-day session. Father William Davish, S.J., Loyola College, Baltimore, moved that the round table recommend a reconsideration of the structure of the College Section before the 1952 meeting. Father Ambrose Burke seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

SISTER M. CAMILLUS,
Secretary

SEMINARY LIBRARIES

The meeting of the Seminary group was held on March 27th at the Sherman Hotel as a part of the annual convention of the Association. At various times the attendance has been larger but never more varied. In addition to the seminary librarians there were many whose work touched theology, e.g., university librarians and those whose institutions place some emphasis on one or another of the sacred sciences. Perhaps the institution of courses in theology by many of the colleges will open a field of greater service for those librarians who have special training.

The program covered the field in its broad aspects and was a good combination of the philosophy of seminary librarianship and some of the

more specific and technical aspects of the work. Rev. John Broderick reviewed some of the elements which must enter into any well-considered selection of objectives. The points were familiar enough but were rather cleverly slanted towards the needs of the group.

Immediately upon the conclusion of Father Broderick's interesting talk, the next two speakers, Rev. Francis X. Canfield and Rev. Gilbert C. Peterson, S.J., reduced his principles to act, through the presentation of extremely practical cases. Father Canfield described the actual setting up and administration of a minor seminary library, while Father Peterson discussed various aspects of bibliographic cooperation.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO CATHOLIC READERS

The annual meeting of the Library Service to Catholic Readers Section of the Catholic Library Association was held on Wednesday, March 28, at 8 P.M., at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago.

In the absence of Miss Lucy Murphy, chairman of the section, Miss Ursula Courtney, of the Chicago Public Library, presided. Seventy people attended the meeting. The program was as follows.

Mrs. Josephine Ryan Murphy, of St. Gertrude's Parish, Chicago, spoke on the origin and growth of St. Gertrude's Library of which she is the librarian.

Miss Marguerite Gallagher, of the South Chicago Branch of the Chicago Public Library, gave a talk entitled "Public Librarians, Let's Get Together".

Miss Clara Reaum, of the Displays Department of the Chicago Public Library, spoke on "The Value of Book Displays".

Mr. John O'Loughlin, President of C.L.A., was introduced by Miss Courtney and extended greetings to the section and spoke briefly on some of his experiences as a Public Library Trustee.

A discussion period followed.

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BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Helen L. Butler, Ph.D., *Editor*
Marywood College, Scranton, Pa.

BRASSET, Edmund A. *A Doctor's Pilgrimage*. Lippincott, 1951. 256p. \$3.50

A fascinating account by a friendly young doctor who marked time in general practice in small Nova Scotia towns until he could accumulate money enough for his major ambition—brain surgery. When the opportunity was finally realized, Dr. Brasset returned once more to the people and the scenes he liked best.

There are light-hearted descriptions of his experiences on the way up: his patients and some of the more unusual cases (in one new situation, his first patient was a 1400-pound ox), his ever-present financial difficulties, his service in a mental hospital where his first child was born, a bit of local color now and then. Outstanding is his liking for people and their response to his friendliness. Medical terms are freely used, but the language is not over-technical and never impedes the story pace of the book. It makes good vocational reading for would-be doctors and nurses. The two obstetrical cases recounted are not over-frank and should not shock even the younger reader.

FRANCES DOWLING
College of New Rochelle
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Translated by Sebastian Bullough, O.P.

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BANNING, Margaret Culkin. *Fallen Away*. Harper, 1951. 314p. \$3.

This is a very readable, convincing treatment of the Catholic position on divorce and remarriage, in which both sides are openly and fairly presented. Its conclusion offers no equivocation on the Church's stand, though coincidence permits the heroine to eat her cake and have it, too.

We are given Barbara Fielding, young, attractive, divorced, and Catholic, faced with the choice of breaking with the Church or with a fine man of promising future, himself newly freed by annulment from a Catholic girl. When the bishop refuses a dispensation, Barbara marries the man any way and is almost immediately torn by conscience, angered that her new husband is penalized by his Catholic business acquaintances while his former wife retains her good standing in Church and society and, above all, seriously disturbed by her exclusion from the sacraments. Her marriage threatened and her lifelong convictions fading out, she goes briefly to Europe as a social worker, returning shortly before her first husband dies. The obstacle to a true marriage removed, she finds she has lost her faith and no longer cares to repair the damage. Eventually—and largely with the help of her husband's patient understanding—this is achieved.

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BOOK NOTES

ingenuity in contrasting one problem apparently receiving full consideration by Church authorities with another practically disregarded. The younger reader, however, may feel the chance is worth taking, since Barbara's first husband died conveniently in time for her to make her second marriage "right". He may even fall in with the reasoning of one of the characters who says: "It's all right now and a few extra years in purgatory won't hurt a strong girl like you."

FRANCES DOWLING
College of New Rochelle
New Rochelle, New York

CHUTE, Marchette. *An Introduction to Shakespeare*. Dutton, 1951. 123p. \$2.25

The author of *Shakespeare of London* has reduced her larger, more scholarly work to a simple presentation of the Elizabethan stage, its outstanding personalities, its actors and patrons, its playgoers, its companies, theaters, costumes, and rehearsals. Criticism of the plays themselves is kept to a minimum, but there is much about their sources, characters, poetry, and staging. Above all, there is a subtle insistence upon the pleasure the great dramatist gave his audiences in his lifetime (and all audiences since) and on the devotion his friends held for him. The result is a fascinating, informative account long needed for the high-school student just embarking upon his first Shakespearean play.

H. L. B.

DOTY, William L. *Fire in the Rain*. Bruce, 1951. 212p. \$2.75

Less superficial and sentimental than Evelyn Voss Wise's *Lights of Stars* and a far cry from the strongly plotted drama of *The Cardinal*, this quiet, symbolically titled novel concerns itself with the spiritual renascence and growth of a young curate as much as with his routine parish duties. There are the not uncommon props: an occasionally crotchety pastor, a well-intentioned but garrulous housekeeper, an understanding fellow-curate, the impossible-to-live-up-to reputation of a predecessor. Catholic Action is Father Cartwright's hope for bringing people back to Christ, and one gets a very good picture of a cell in action. Through failure, frustration, and sorrow, plus the fine influence of a wise director, Father Roy eventually arrives at inner peace and at the point where success no longer matters personally, but God is All. Light readers may skip occasional passages of self-analysis, but the story is definitely well-written and satisfying.

SISTER M. AGNESE, S.C.C.
Central Catholic High School
Reading, Pennsylvania

SULLIVAN, Richard. *Notre Dame, the Story of a Great University*. Holt, 1951. 242p. \$3.

Not a guide book, not a history, not an autobiography, not an essay, but something of all four is this affectionate account of the author's alma mater and present employer. Urbane, perceptive,

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rambling, and masculine, his sentences describe buildings, departments, founders and presidents, student body and campus incidents (not forgetting football). Like the best informal essays, his writing reads like good conversation—conversation which sketches a portrait not only of his university but of himself as student and faculty member. Old grads familiar with the scene will probably derive the greatest enjoyment from the book, but it is succulent bait for the high-school football team that may consider itself immune to the essay.

H. L. B.

FROST, Robert. *The Road Not Taken; an Introduction to Robert Frost; a Selection of Robert Frost's Poems with a Biographical Preface and Running Commentary* by Louis Untermeyer. Illustrations by John O'Hara Cosgrove II. Holt, 1951. 282p. \$3.50

Included among the 131 poems selected are many old favorites and several not before published in book form. Untermeyer's biographical sketch and brief, interpretative introductions to the individual poems are clean-cut, friendly "vision-sharpeners" and stimulating preparation for the poems themselves. Suggesting rather than baldly explaining, they should help develop appreciation on the part of many young readers still honestly puzzled by the poetic form. As an introduction to this famous contemporary Ameri-

can poet, the book is a first purchase for the high-school library shelf. First-line and title indexes are provided.

H. L. B.

ROYER, Fanchon. *The Franciscans Came First*. St. Anthony Guild Press, 1951. 195p. illus. \$2.50

Hardly scholarly enough to substantiate the title claim, but nevertheless very readable and vivid, are these nine sketches of Franciscan missionaries, from Pedro de Gante, who arrived on Mexican soil four years after Cortes, to Junipero Serra, more than two centuries later. Teachers and students of Spanish colonization in the Americas will find much new and interesting material in these historical accounts of high heroism in the face of Indian hostility and savagery, local Spanish greed and misrule (the mother country's laws were just enough), and incredible physical hardship. Though difficult to say which sketches are best, doubtless those of the boy martyrs of Tlaxcala and of the saintly road builder, Sebastian de Aparicio, will appeal most to young readers.

A section of portraits adds to the attractiveness of the volume, and a bibliography of English and Spanish sources, an index, and an end map add to its usefulness.

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